

### **Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for removing pigments from a pigmented section of skin, comprising:
  - a) puncturing the skin at said pigmented section with a ~~skin-puncturing~~ skin-puncturing device provided with at least one needle, thereby liberating the pigments and cellular fluids from cells containing said pigments; and
  - b) bandaging said punctured skin with a pad adapted to absorb said pigments and said cellular fluids, said pad containing one or more materials capable of accelerating ~~[[the]]~~ a process of migration of ~~[[,]]~~ said pigments toward ~~[[the]]~~ an outer layer of the skin, wherein ~~[[,]]~~ said one ~~material~~ or more materials is a salt-based granular paste.
2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising applying one or more antiseptic materials to the punctured skin.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the punctured skin is bandaged with a pad containing ~~[[the]]~~ one or more antiseptic materials.
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~skin-puncturing~~ skin-puncturing device is a tattooing device.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~each of the needles~~ the at least one needle attached to the ~~skin-puncturing~~ skin-puncturing device is solid.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein the ~~skin-puncturing~~ skin-puncturing device is further provided with suction means.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6, further comprising, prior to the bandaging of the punctured skin and during the puncturing of said skin, performing [[the]] suction of the pigments from said punctured skin with the ~~Suction~~ suction means.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~salt is~~ salt-based granular paste contains saline.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein an aqueous solution is injected into the pigmented section during the puncturing of the skin.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising applying at least one antibiotic material to the punctured skin.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, which further comprises including at least one antibiotic material for treating the skin in said pad.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more materials in said pad are capable of absorbing at least five grams of [[the]] an aqueous mixture containing

[[the]] tattoo ink and cellular debris per ten square centimeters of area of said pad in a period of no more than twenty minutes.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one needle attached to said ~~skin-puncturing~~ skin-puncturing device is hollow.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, which further comprises coupling a means for providing suction to said hollow needle.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, further comprising, prior to the bandaging of the punctured skin and during the puncturing of said skin, sucking the pigments from said punctured skin with said means for providing suction.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~skin-puncturing~~ skin-puncturing device includes no ink to be injected.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of removing the pad prior to damaging the skin.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of removing the pad prior to complete saturation.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of covering the pad with a dressing.